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# WHAT IS THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM?

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) maps out five years of funding for transportation projects in the Boston region. Each year, the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) decides how to spend around \$110 million in Regional Target funding to complement state and local transportation infrastructure investments in the Boston region.

In addition to deciding how this regional funding should be programmed, the MPO also reviews and votes to endorse decisions for investing federal transportation dollars by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), the MetroWest Regional Transportation Authority, and the Cape Ann Transportation Authority.

## The Boston Region MPO's Vision

The Boston Region MPO envisions a modern, well-maintained transportation system that supports a sustainable, healthy, livable, and economically vibrant region. To achieve this vision, the transportation system must be safe and resilient; incorporate emerging technologies; and provide equitable access, excellent mobility, and varied transportation options.



# WHAT DOES THE MPO FUND?

The MPO prioritizes investments that focus on

- Preserving, maintaining, and modernizing the transportation system;
- Providing safe transportation for all modes;
- Enhancing livability, economic vitality, and equity; and
- Improving mobility throughout the region.

These investments fund projects like Complete Streets construction, intersection improvements, shared-use path expansion, and pedestrian infrastructure improvements that align with the MPO's vision, goals, and objectives established in the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), *Destination 2040*.



# BOSTON REGION MPO GOALS FROM THE LRTP



**SAFETY**



**SYSTEM  
PRESERVATION AND  
MODERNIZATION**



**CAPACITY  
MANAGEMENT  
AND MOBILITY**



**CLEAN AIR AND  
SUSTAINABLE  
COMMUNITIES**



**TRANSPORTATION  
EQUITY**



**ECONOMIC  
VITALITY**

The LRTP goals shape the criteria used to evaluate transportation projects in consideration for funding by the MPO. To learn more about the TIP evaluation criteria, visit [bostonmpo.org/tip](http://bostonmpo.org/tip).

# WHAT ARE THE TYPES OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS THE TIP FUNDS?



Modernize existing signals  
Shorten crossings for pedestrians  
Improve sidewalks

## INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS



Create continuous sidewalks  
Install bike lanes and cycle tracks  
Construct dedicated bus lanes and associated roadway improvements

## COMPLETE STREETS

**You can discover more about programmed projects through the MPO's interactive TIP Project Database at [bostonmpo.org/maploc/www/apps/tipApp/index.html](http://bostonmpo.org/maploc/www/apps/tipApp/index.html).**





- Expand bike networks
- Create new shared-use paths
- Implement traffic calming improvements

## BICYCLE NETWORK AND PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS



- Implement first- and last-mile connections
- Increase car and bike parking near transit stations
- Install signage and other wayfinding

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



- Improve stations
- Construct elevators
- Build for climate resiliency

## TRANSIT MODERNIZATION



- Extend rail lines
- Improve stations
- Construct large-scale Complete Streets projects

## MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE

# HOW DOES THE MPO DEVELOP THE TIP?

For a project to be eligible for inclusion in the TIP, it must be approved by the MassDOT Project Review Committee

## OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

MPO staff contact municipalities to confirm municipal representatives (also known as "TIP contacts") who will provide information to their municipalities on how to seek project funding and act as the main point of contact during the TIP process.

MPO staff gather input from the TIP contacts on new and existing projects being considered for funding, known as the Universe of Projects.

MPO staff engage the public to gather input on proposed projects.

Municipalities submit project information for MPO project evaluations.

## DECEMBER

## JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

MPO staff complete and release initial project evaluations and continue to gather public input on proposed projects.

Municipalities submit feedback on staff project evaluations.

MPO staff present comments on initial evaluations and update results based on municipal feedback.



**MARCH**

The MPO board discusses the status updates of TIP projects programmed in prior years to see if they are on track or if changes need to be made to project schedules.

The MPO board discusses staff recommendations for new project programming.

The MPO board votes to release the draft TIP for a 21-day public comment period.

**APRIL**

**MAY**

MPO staff conduct outreach to hear feedback from the public on the TIP.

The MPO board endorses the final TIP at the end of the public comment period.

MPO staff gather feedback about the TIP process and projects to prepare for the next funding cycle.

**JUNE, JULY,  
AUGUST,  
AND  
SEPTEMBER**

# HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

To have the greatest impact on transportation projects in **YOUR COMMUNITY**, it is important to also get involved at the local level in municipal comprehensive planning, public meetings, and advocacy efforts.

**Remember the Boston Region MPO Board members are YOUR public officials.** Reach out to them, attend local public meetings and open houses, and check your municipality's website to advocate for the projects and programs you want to see in your community.



To learn more about the Boston Region MPO, visit our website at **[bostonmpo.org](http://bostonmpo.org)**.

## Advocate for MPO projects in your community or across the region by:

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### PROVIDING FEEDBACK

Post a comment in the comment form on our website at [bostonmpo.org/contact](http://bostonmpo.org/contact).

### CHATting WITH STAFF

MPO staff regularly attends outreach events. Check @BostonRegionMPO on Twitter and the MPO's meeting calendar to find an event that is convenient for you.

### INVITING US OVER

Reach out via [publicinfo@ctps.org](mailto:publicinfo@ctps.org) if you would like MPO staff to visit or attend your meeting to discuss transportation issues that are important to you.

### KEEPING UP-TO-DATE

Subscribe to our MPO's email list and follow us on Twitter @BostonRegionMPO.

### ATTENDING AN MPO MEETING

Observe the MPO in action and express your views at the MPO board and committee meetings. Find meeting notices on the MPO's meeting calendar at [bostonmpo.org/calendar/month](http://bostonmpo.org/calendar/month).

### JOINING OUR ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Regional Transportation Advisory Council, a voting member of the MPO, is an independent body that brings public viewpoints and advice on transportation policy and planning to the MPO.



[www.bostonmpo.org/tip](http://www.bostonmpo.org/tip)